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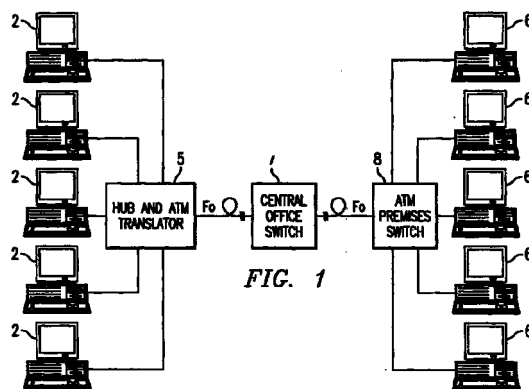
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(54) **ATM cell transmission scheduling**

(57) A network hub and Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) translator system (5) for use in a Local Area Network (LAN)-based communications system is disclosed. The network hub and ATM translator system (5) includes a host controller (10) that serves as the LAN hub, and which interfaces with a translator card (15) which includes a segmentation and reassembly device (12) in connection with SONET receive/transmit circuitry (20) that communicates with a transceiver (22) to transmit and receive ATM packet cells over a communications facility (FO). The translator card (15) also includes a scheduler (14) that includes a heap sort state machine which maintains a sorted list of entries, in a heap fashion, in on-chip parameter memory and off-chip parameter memory (18). The entries include, for each ATM channel, a channel identifier and a timestamp that indicates the time at which the next cell for the channel will be due for transmission. A due comparator compares the timestamp of the root value in the heap (i.e., the channel with the next due cell) to a global time generated by a reference timer, and indicates to a source behavior processor in the scheduler (14) that a cell is due for transmission. The scheduler then issues a transmit credit for the cell, and communicates this event with the SAR device (12) to effect the transmission as appropriate.



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 98 20 4004

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	WO 97 42735 A (MAKER COMMUNICATIONS INC) 13 November 1997 (1997-11-13) * abstract * * page 4, line 15 - page 10, line 8 * * page 34, line 11 - page 38, line 20; figure 4 * ---	1,10	H04Q11/04 H04L12/56
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H04Q H04L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 10 September 1999	Examiner von der Straten, G
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 98 20 4004

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The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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